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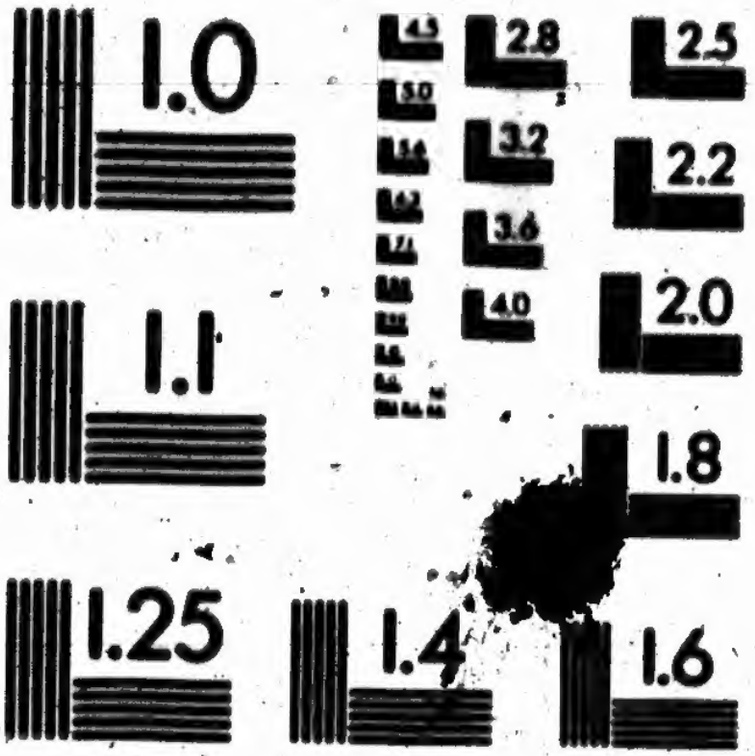

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WILSON'S

EUREKA

TANNING PROCESS,

FOR

GENERAL AND DOMESTIC USE,

WHICH COMPRISES

All the Art of Tanning.

Many base and worthless processes have been presented and sold to the public for genuine. This is conclusive evidence that this is a genuine process which is now offered to the complete satisfaction of all. By this method the inventor claims to perfect the science.

1871.

ANSLOW BROS., PRINTERS & PUBLISHERS,

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SUPERIOR TANNING PROCESS.

The world moves! We are startled almost every day at the announcement of some important discovery in the Arts and Sciences. People are not satisfied with the things of last year; they demand something better. A few years ago a trip across the Atlantic consumed six weeks, the average time now is ten days.

One year ago the Merchant in Boston wrote a letter to his California agent, and had to wait two months for an answer. To-day his dispatch to San Francisco is answered within an hour.

For a long time the Arts and Sciences were obscured, and in those dark ages many arts were lost forever, relics of some of which still remain to mock the genius of the nineteenth century. Who can tell by what art were raised those masses of Granite which compose the Pyramids of Egypt that pierce the clouds? Or who can elucidate the art that more than 3000 years ago prepared that body, and has preserved it during a sleep of more than thirty centuries in the tomb, so that to day we look upon those lineaments which once in life may have met the gaze of Pharoah's daughter, as she took one of her favorite strolls along the banks of the Nile.

The devastation of war and the degeneracy of the human race, drove the Arts and Sciences to an obscurity from which they are but now emerging.

He who has toiled for years among the rugged paths of Science, and as the result of his untiring energy and sleepless study, has wrought out some useful invention, is a greater hero than he who has conquered armies. He is a benefactor of mankind.

What are the monuments of Alexander, Cæsar, Charlemagne and Bonaparte, the great military chieftains of the world? Alas, nothing have they left to excite our gratitude. But millions are now enjoying the benefits conferred by the Inventions of Faust, Watt, Arkwright and Morse, who respectively invented Printing—the Art preservative of all Arts—the Steam Engine, the Spinning Jenny, and the Magnetic Telegraph. And although the rude and sluggish craft with which, by the aid of steam, Robert Fulton first navigated the Hudson River, has been superceded by the swift and elegant steamers of to-day, which are so much superior to his own imperfect invention, the star of his genius shall not set!

And honor is due to those who invented the stage Coach, the Signal Telegraph, the hand Printing Press, the Flail and the Scythe, though the world was not satisfied with them, but demanded the Railroad, the Lightning Telegraph, the Steam Cylinder Printing Press, the Threshing and Mowing Machines. Credit is due to the man whose genius invented the Machine which turned out twenty pounds of rough nails in twelve hours, but neither the machine nor the nails are used to-day! A machine has been invented which makes nails faster and better. It was once thought that a man must serve seven years or more as an apprentice to learn a trade, but now owing to discoveries in the mechanical arts labor is so much facilitated that only one-fourth the time is required. And the mechanical arts have not suffered from this seeming haste to acquire them. A boy with two years experience in his trade to-day,

would utterly astonish with a sample of his skill, a man of those days of seven or fourteen years' apprenticeship, who had worked twenty years before he could manufacture such an article.

In the art which is the subject of this pamphlet there are claimed to have been made great improvements. The Inventor, not satisfied with the slow and tedious process of Tanning commonly practiced, which is so far behind the age in which he lives, has been for years studying the subject with deep investigation, and has, at length, discovered a process of Tanning, which is simple and cheap, and within the capacity of a child to understand and practice.

Modern researches of Science have disclosed the existence of certain materials and principles in nature, which the inventor has combined and adopted in his ***Patent Superior Tanning Process.***

In the old method of Tanning, a Hide requires, as is well known, months and often years to finish it into Leather. And then the deleterious substances used, and the manner of Tanning, destroy much of that strength and flexibility which a proper system of Tanning would produce.

By the SUPERIOR TANNING PROCESS a skin or hide is tanned in from fifteen minutes to twelve days. And the Inventor challenges the world to show better Leather and Furs than those manufactured by this process. The strength, softness and durability of the Leather, and the gloss and richness of the Furs, produced by this process, cannot be excelled by any other mode of Tanning in the world.

N. B.—The Purchaser of a right to the Superior Tanning Process, will also receive with this purchase the right to manufacture the celebrated WATER-PROOF STUFFING for Boots, Leather Harness, &c., which sells readily everywhere at 25 cents a box, and is combined in the patent of the Superior Tanning Process.

Persons purchasing State, County or Town Rights, will also receive a complete set of MITTEN PATTERNS, which cannot be purchased at a glover's at a cost less than $25.

By addressing us above, enclosing Five Dollars, I will forward by mail, post-paid, one Family Right for Tanning (including the Water-proof Stuffing), with pamphlet of directions.

Please give name and residence in full.

10U
HLLL
881 Gf.

DIRECTIONS.

Having had experience in the tanning business for thirty years, I feel sure that I now present to the public a better mode than has yet appeared. If any one doubt this he can test the following directions, which, if carried out to the very letter, will produce the evidence to substantiate the truth of the above statement. N. W.

DIRECTIONS FOR USING THE SUPERIOR TANNING PROCESS.—The first thing to be done preparatory to tanning dry hides or skins is to soak them in soft water until perfectly soft, occasionally working them on a wheel or on a fleshing-beam. If is only necessary to soak a green hide a few hours and it is ready for the lime. After the flesh has been nicely taken off,

TO LOOSEN THE HAIR ON HIDES OR SKINS,

Prepare the liquid as follows. To ten gallons soft water add eight quarts slaked lime and nine quarts hard wood ashes. Agitate this liquid thoroughly, and immerse the hides or skins. Let them soak three hours then haul them. Repeat the operation four times the first day, three times the second day, and once a day thereafter until the hair slips easily on the thickest part. Then they should be taken out and rinsed in clean water. Then take them on the fleshing-beam and remove the hair. Next throw them into clean water and let them soak half a day. Then take them on the fleshing beam and remove all the flesh. Now handle four hours in a liquid prepared as follows: To six quarts soft water add two quarts sharp cider vinegar; then throw away this liquid, and make new for every pack. Next put these hides and skins in soft water and work them in a wheel or with a fleshing-knife; scrape them on a beam three times in three days, removing all fine hair. Then they are ready for

THE TAN, PREPARED AS FOLLOWS:—To eight gallons of Maywood and Bark liquor, add well dissolved, three pounds Terra Japonica, one ounce alum, one ounce salt, one quarter ounce saltpetre. In this liquid handle the hides and skins constantly the first day; second day haul and throw them into a liquor prepared by steeping and leaching the strength out of the following articles: We use the following shrubs and plants in its place, all together, or separately, after cutting and drying: Smartweed, Tansy, Spearmint, Sweet-fern, this last should be pulled up by the roots, cut in small pieces for use, and steeped with other articles, plants, barks etc. It is not material about the proportions. In the absence of the foregoing shrubs and plants, use two pounds of Japonica and one pound Extract of Hemlock. After steeping out the above articles, draw off the liquor into a vessel or vat (by the side of the vat that contains the Japonica liquor), and to forty gallons of this liquor, add, dissolved, one ounce alum and one ounce salt. Now let them remain in this liquor one day, hauling two or three times. Next day haul them and put them back into the Japonica liquor, and so keep on alternately changing them once a day from one liquor to the other, until tanned—letting them lie up each time long enough to drain. The liquor should be strengthened occasionally by adding Japonica to the Japonica liquor, and replacing the exhausted bark liquor into leach for more strength. The liquors should be kept in good strength, otherwise the leather will be poor.

Hides that are in weak liquor grow slippery, while those in strong liquor feel rough to the hand on the grain side.

When these hides and skins are tanned, haul and let drain, and lay on the table and oil the grain side; then hang in the shade to dry. When dry, dip them in water so as to make them just damp enough for skiving and shaving. When skived and shaved scour them. First put them in a tub of water and then place them on the curry table flesh side up; then take a stiff brush and apply it faithfully to the leather. Then slick the water and filth off with an iron slick, then dip in water again and lay on the table, grain side up, and apply brush as before; then apply stone slick faithfully to work down every wrinkle. Then with a cup throw water over the leather and finish scouring by applying the brush and iron slick, slicking the water out as dry as possible.

STUFFING.—The next thing is to stuff the leather with stuffing proportioned as follows: Make hot two pounds beef tallow and pour it into three quarts tanner's oil, and stir occasionally; when nearly cold stir in one gill best kerosene oil. Just before stuffing, oil on the grain side, put oiled side on the table and then, with an iron slick, slick down the leather every way smoothly. Then apply with a soft brush the stuffing to the flesh side evenly, leaving it one-third as thick as the leather; next hang up in the shade to dry.

When dry, take the leather to the table, and with a sharp iron slick remove all the stuffing from the leather. Then take a bunch of hair taken from horses' manes or tails, and use it to rub off every particle of stuffing from the grain of the leather. Then take it on to the whitening beam, and with the whitening knife take a shaving from every part of the flesh side, making it completely smooth. (This can be done with whitening slick on the table). Then slick off the grain with a stone slick; then use the grain-board to soften; lay the leather on the table flesh side down, and commence at one corner of the leather with the grain-board in the right hand, and grain or bowl the leather "cattering" across two ways, leaving the grain "diamoning." Now the leather is ready for the

BLACKING.—Put a dozen on the table, the largest first, the smallest last. Then with a stiff brush apply faithfully to the flesh side of the blacking, compounded as follows: To two quarts of tanner's oil add half a three cent paper of lampblack; stir well and then stir into this half pint Japonica liquor. After this blacking has dried in, rub the blacked side over with a clean woollen cloth to remove all loose particles; then with a soft brush apply evenly a paste made as follows: To two quarts boiling rain water, add a few shavings of bar soap, and to this add two-thirds of a pint of thickening made of fine flour and soft water well stirred in. Let boil a few minutes, then let cool; then stir into this paste one-fourth as much of melted Gum Tragacanth. When this paste is dried into the leather, take it on the table and slick the black side over with a sharp glass slick. The next coat of paste should be half gum and put on evenly with a fine sponge. When dry, to finish, set down with a glass slick.

HOW GRAIN BLACKING IS MADE AND PUT ON.—Put into an iron vessel a quantity of old iron; then put four ounces extract logwood into a gallon of sharp cider vinegar, dissolve over a slow fire; when dissolved pour it into the vessel with the old iron, and cover tight; the longer it stands the better it is. When blacking is wanted, set a deep stone jar into an open room and put into it four ounces copperas, then two ounces logwood, then add to this aquafortis sufficient to dissolve the whole; immediately cover tight; when dissolved add it to two quarts of the

vinegar from the old iron. Next heat and keep hot a quantity of sealg: apply the hot sealg with a stiff brush to a side of harness. When the grain is sufficiently moistened, apply the blacking with a brush. When nearly dry, set down smoothly the back side with a stone sleek, then with an iron sleek remove all the stuffing from the flesh side; then with old woollen cloths clean the blackened side of the smut, and then stuff with hot tallow and hang up to dry. When dry sleek the tallow from the blackened side, and then, to finish polish by applying old woollen cloths with energy.

Grain-Blacked Shoe Leather is blacked the same as Harness—only when the leather is partly dry, oil the blackened side, and then, when about dry, sleek down every way with a stone sleek. When perfectly dry, whiten the flesh side, then apply with a fine sponge to the blackened side a thin coat of Gum Tragacanth. When dry, grain or bowl two ways, and then with a glass set down the grain every way to finish.

TANNING FUR SKINS.

I find it necessary to call attention especially to the tanning of Musk-rat skins, they are so tender, while the flesh is so tough. It is best to soak them in the tan liquor four hours; then rinse in soft water; then, to flesh, place them on the beam with a skin (hair on) under them; then, to take the flesh off, use a circular knife in the shape of a half moon, with the edge turned; after fleshing, return them to the tan liquor, proportioned as follows: To two quarts sour buttermilk, add two quarts tepid soft water, or to four quarts skimmed milk (either will do), add well dissolved twelve ounces salt, half oz. borax, one oz. saltpetre; then add slowly with agitation four ozs. sulphuric acid. In this fluid let the skins soak an hour; then hang up over the tub to drain. Repeat until tanned—which will be from three to seven times, according to the character of the skin—occasionally pulling them every way to help in the tan. When tanned wash them in suds made of eight gallons luke-warm soft water and two ounces salaratus. Saturate the fur, hair or wool with a little old soft soap and wash well. After washing them, beam or sleek out clean all the suds from every part of the skins, and then sponge on to the flesh side a little best kerosene oil and hang them in the shade to dry. While drying pull them every way to soften.—When perfectly dry, with a coarse gritted stone, sleek off the flesh side to soften. Now bring out the gloss on the furs, pack them fur to fur, and let them remain two weeks. They are finished.

Acorns seasoned and ground, the meal stirred into tepid soft water (with a little yeast added); after being well fermented and all the meal strained out, the liquid may be used in place of milk with S. Acid.

ANOTHER WAY TO TAN SKINS WITH FUR, HAIR OR WOOL ON.

To two quarts sharp vinegar add well pulverised, ten ounces alum, one ounce borax, one ounce saltpetre, ten ounces salt; stir well; immerse the skins and let soak one hour; then suspend over the tub to drain. Repeat until tanned, and manage as in the other acid tanning, only a longer time to tan. In this mode a small calf skin may be tanned in about a day and a half. Sponge on kerosene oil according to the thickness of the skin. Some skins need two or three coats of oil, worked in while drying by pulling them every way.

After these two fur tan liquors are made mix them together and a better tan is produced. In this mixture rotten apple juice may be used in place of vinegar. Vinegar may be used in this tan made, or anything

vegetable. The oils for fur, hair or wool skins should be compounded and proportioned as follows: Equal parts of kerosene and best tanner's oil, a little saturated with old soft soap. If the skin should be hard when most dry, put on a good coat of the prepared oils, and then pull them to soften. Use pine, hard wood or mahogany saw dust for cleaning furs.

To Dress Glove Leather of Small Calf Skins, Kid Skins, Lamb Skins, and Cat Skins.

Prepare the skins for the lime as first directed for kips; degrease or scour, and lime them in the same way; or lime them in a liquid composition proportioned as follows: Dissolve one pound potash in ten gallons soft water; add to this eight quarts of unslaked lime, and eight quarts hard wood ashes. Agitate thoroughly and immediately immerse the skins. Handle constantly. On sheep skins the wool will start within two hours; for hair, from three to nine hours. Then after the wool or hair is removed, and they are fleshed, handle two hours in sharp cider vinegar and water, equal parts; then scald in hot water and scrape or beam them with the fleshing knife twice, and they are ready for a tan in the following proportions:—In eight gallons soft water melt four pounds terra japonica, four pounds glauber salts, four pounds alum, and one pound salt; handle well. The lamb skins will tan in one hour.—When quarty strike through, take from the tan and drive and smear.

To Dye Dark or Shade Skins Buff Color.—After the skin is well tanned and finished smooth, dip it for four hours in warm solution of gum sumac and alum; brine and work it dry.

For Obtaining a Royal Purple.—2 oz. logwood, 2 oz. cochineal, 1 oz. soft soap, 1 oz. alum, 1 oz. cream of tartar, 1 oz. saltpeter, 1 oz. muriate of tin, 1 oz. nitric acid, 1 gal. soft water; boil, skim and cool; then brush the leather over with it; when dry, repeat the process until it is the right shade; beat the white of an egg and rub it over the leather.

For Rose Color.—Palm blossoms, steeped in water, set with alum.

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